REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 15-27 were pending. Claims 15-18, 20-23 and 25-27 have been rejected. Claims 19 and 24 have been objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent forms.

In this response, claims 16, 19, and 23-24 been canceled without prejudice. Claims 15, 17-18, 21, and 26 have been amended. A terminal disclaimer has been submitted to overcome the double patenting rejection. No new matter has been added.

Specifically, independent claims 15 and 17-18 have been amended to include an allowable subject matter of the objected to claims 19 and 24. Thus, independent claims 15 and 17-18 are allowable. The rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims. Therefore, all claims are allowable.

Claims 15, 17, 18, 20, 23 and 25 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the combination of claims 5 and 6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,059. In view of the submitted terminal disclaimer, the rejection has been overcome.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: <u>April 12, 2006</u>

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